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16 July 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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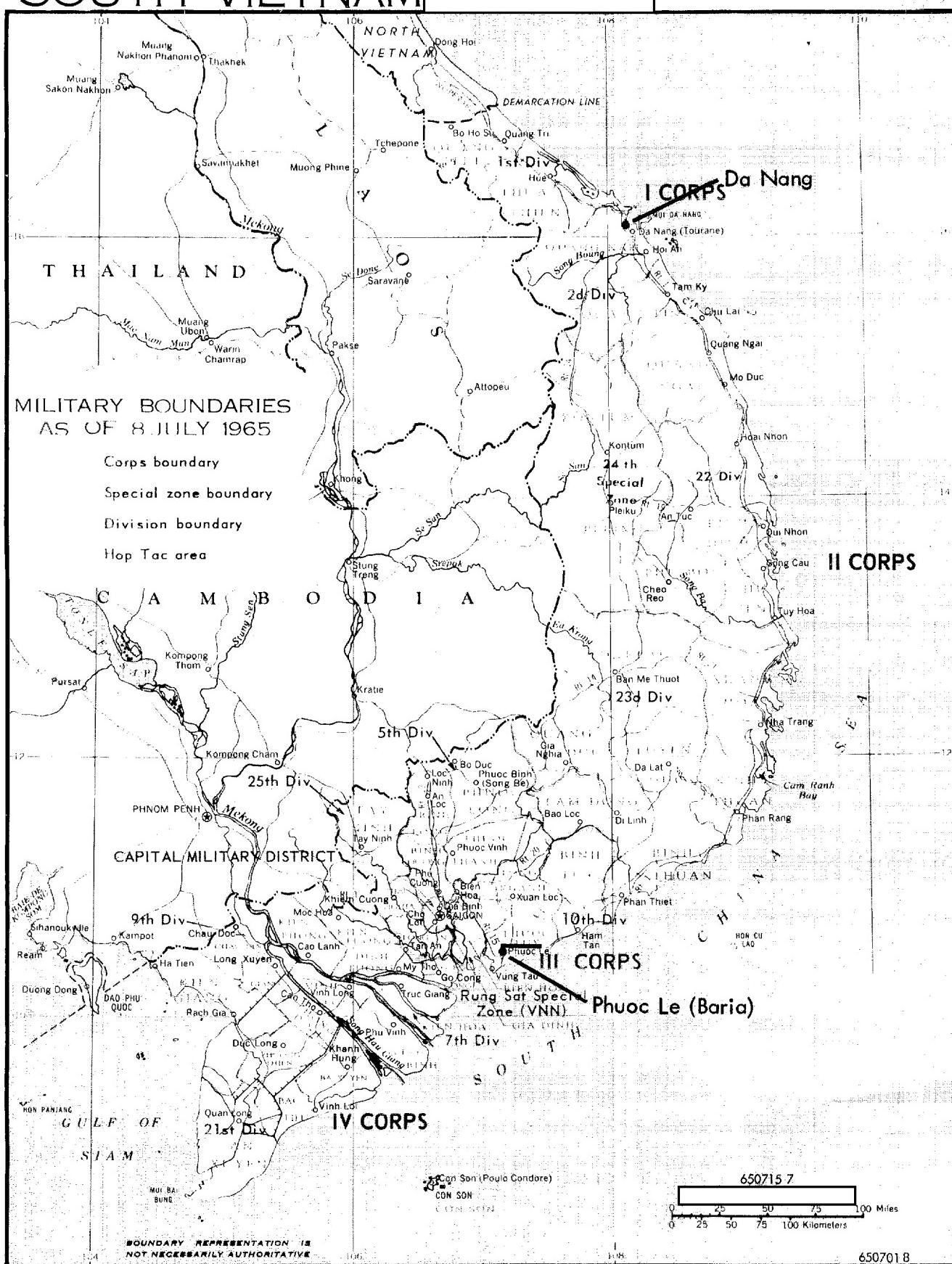
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Viet Cong activity in South Vietnam on 15 July included the shelling of a provincial capital and the attempted ambush of a government convoy moving towards Da Nang.

Communist forces directed 57-mm. recoilless rifle fire on Phuoc Le (Baria), the capital of Phuoc Tuy Province, and simultaneously placed mortar and automatic weapons fire on the provincial military headquarters. Friendly casualties, consisting primarily of national police and civilians, were believed to be light.

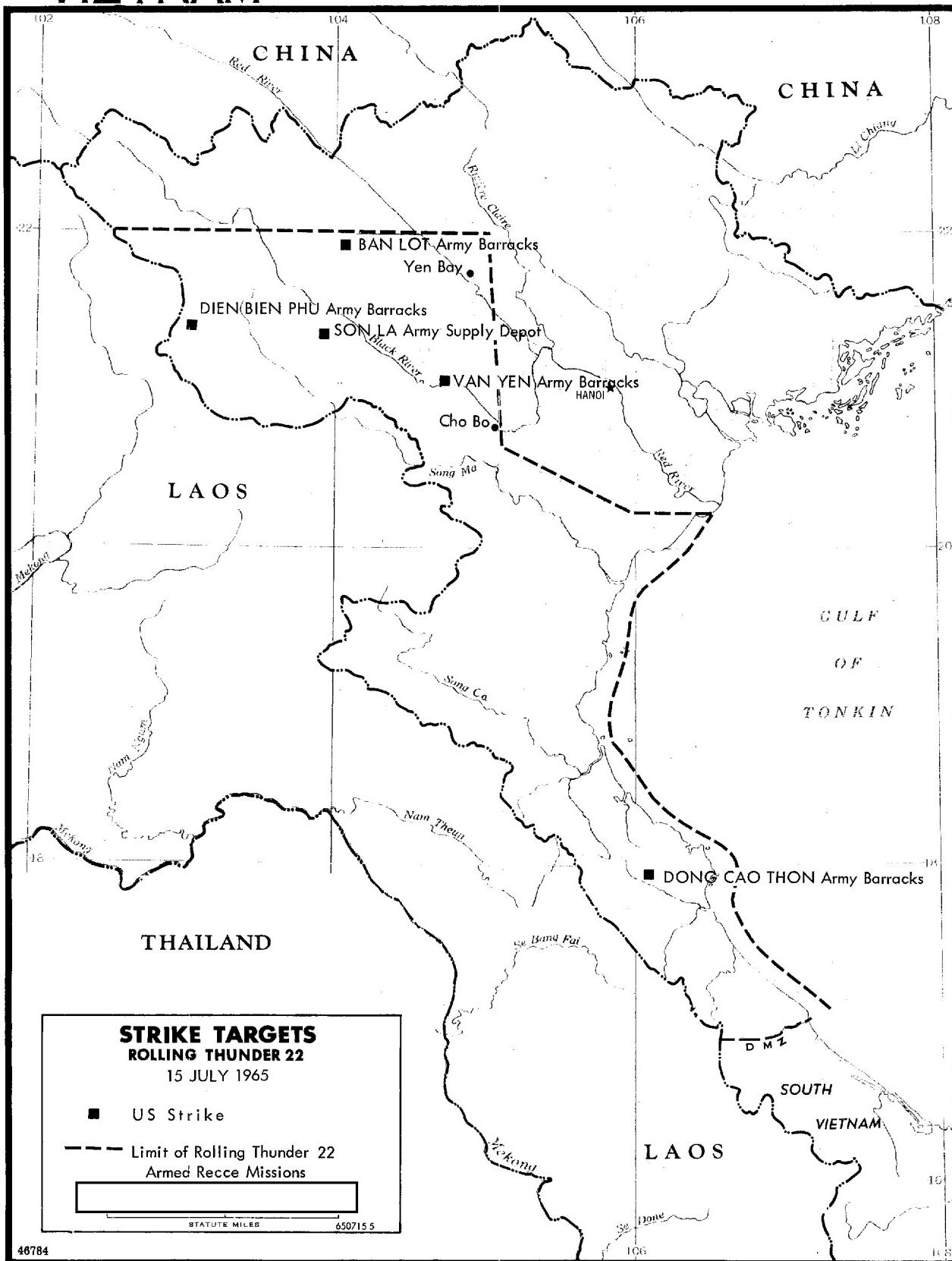
The lead company of a government convoy 15 miles south of Da Nang suffered heavy casualties when it attempted to clear a Viet Cong ambush position which had been detected from the air. Air strikes were conducted against the Communist position, and a government relief force was later airlifted to the area. Government losses were reported as 60 killed and 35 wounded as against 56 Viet Cong killed.

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NORTH VIETNAM



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Communist Political Developments: According to London press sources, President Nkrumah of Ghana has been invited to visit North Vietnam in his personal capacity as President of Ghana, not as a representative of the Commonwealth Peace Mission. If the visit materializes, Hanoi will probably seek to convince Nkrumah that its position on negotiations is correct and that he should disassociate himself from the Commonwealth proposals. Hanoi has previously rebuffed both the Commonwealth Peace Mission and the 17 non-aligned nations proposals.

Air Strikes in North Vietnam: US aircraft conducted numerous strikes on 15 July, inflicting considerable damage on the Son La supply depot, on military barracks at Dien Bien Phu, Ban Lot, and Dong Cao Thon, and on the Van Yen military area. Armed route reconnaissance missions destroyed or damaged a number of barges, bridges, and trucks. Two leaflet drops were carried out over Yen Bay and Cho Bo.

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*Greece: George Athanasiadis-Novas, the president of the Greek parliament, has formed a new government as a result of the ouster of Prime Minister Papandreu by King Constantine.

In a confrontation with the King yesterday, Papandreu continued to insist that Defense Minister Garoufalias be removed and that he take over that post personally. The King's counter offer to give Papandreu the ministry temporarily was refused and the prime minister stated his intention to resign today. Without waiting for Papandreu's announcement, the King called upon Athanasiadis-Novas to form a new government. Several members of the new cabinet were in the Papandreu government.

Athanasiadis-Novas, a member of the conservative wing of Papandreu's Center Union Party, is a wealthy intellectual, lacking much of the characteristic political zeal of Greek politicians. He has been in government service, including cabinet posts, since 1926 and has been elected to parliament in every election since 1950, serving competently but without particular distinction.

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Papandreu's resignation resulted in minor disturbances in Athens yesterday but demonstrations have been banned and the security situation appears to be under control. Both the security forces and the army have been alerted and two battalions of troops have been moved into the capital. However, the Communist-front United Democratic Left Party has scheduled a rally in support of Papandreu today which could result in new and more serious disturbances.

Meanwhile, Papandreu has issued a statement labeling the new government a "group of traitors" and calling for popular support to restore his regime.

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Pakistan-Indonesia: [Pakistan may be supplying Indonesia with spare parts from US furnished stocks for C-130 Hercules transport planes.]

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[These transports, which have been in danger of early grounding for lack of spare parts, play an important role in Indonesia's anti-Malaysia campaign. Military cooperation between the two countries has been under discussion for several months. At least until recently the Pakistani Government, however, has refrained from furnishing items of American origin because of the direct involvement of the US Military Advisory Assistance Group in resupply control in Pakistan.]

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Sudan: The Sudanese Government is showing increasing signs of nervousness about the situation in the south, where it believes well-armed rebels are now a threat to major population centers.

In an effort to find a scapegoat for the deteriorating situation, Khartoum has in effect accused Sudan's southern neighbors of assisting the rebel bands. Severe security restrictions have been imposed throughout the region and several Europeans have been arrested for abetting the rebels. [Khartoum is also contemplating augmenting its police forces in the three provinces bordering the south--a move that, combined with the military campaign against the rebels, might impose a considerable burden on Sudan's economy.]

The government's increasing severity in dealing with the southern dissidents has generally been well received by the Moslem population in the north, where harshness against southerners is usually welcomed.

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Uruguay: Uruguay's financial problems have worsened sharply as the ruling Blanco party factions and opposition Colorado Party members fight over financing the supplementary budget.

This budget includes raises for government employees, whose salaries are over a month in arrears and who threaten to strike three days per week if they are not paid. The government has already exceeded the legal limit on its credit with the central bank and has no funds to pay them.

Politicians presently seem unwilling to budge from highly partisan solutions to the mounting crisis and President Beltran has vaguely threatened that the government will adopt the "only position possible" if its proposals are not accepted. This position was not specified, but he may be considering either resigning or declaring a state of siege in order to force the central bank to grant credits to the government.

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NOTES

South Korea: Opposition legislators have provoked fistfights with government deputies as the National Assembly began to consider the controversial treaty normalizing relations with Japan. Despite these tactics, the government got its ratification request through a plenary session and referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee. President Pak Chong-hui remains determined to secure early ratification, for which he has the votes, even if violence spreads to the streets.

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Yemen: Nasir's selection of Major General Amri, President Sallal's chief lieutenant, as the new Yemeni premier indicates that he plans to keep Yemeni affairs in firmly pro-Egyptian hands. At the same time he may hope to persuade several figures close to the independent-minded former premier Numan to serve in the cabinet in order to make the regime's subservience to Cairo less obvious, even though the Numan group has so far refused to participate. Any government headed by Amri would nevertheless lose Numan's anti-Egyptian tribal support, thus ending any chances for an early settlement of the civil war.

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*Ecuador: An uneasy calm has settled over Ecuador after several days of rioting and efforts to bring down the government. The junta's communique last night expressing willingness to negotiate with politicians over the plan for transition to civilian rule has not yet produced significant response. Former president Plaza reportedly has recommended formation of a coalition cabinet, but another idea current in Quito is a triumvirate consisting of Plaza, ex-president Cordova, and a single military man.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board on 15 July 1965, approved the following national intelligence estimate:

SNIE 10-2-65, "Soviet and Chinese Communist Strategy and Tactics in North Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia"

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

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The Director of the Budget

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The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Administrator

The Atomic Energy Commission

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The National Indications Center

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